

Please add new claim 18 as follows:

C2 18. (New) A sugar-free hard-coated comestibles having an edible, chewable and/or pharmaceutical core, and a hard coating wherein the hard coating includes at least one layer formed from a syrup mixture containing sorbitol and erythritol, wherein the syrup mixture contains 1% to 50% w/w erythritol.

See Appendix for amendments.